AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1. – 16. (Canceled)

- 17. (Currently Amended) A restraint device for an animal, the device comprising a neck collar for the animal having inter-engagable ends, a surface of the collar having longitudinally spaced apart lead guide means mounted on either side of the longitudinal center of the collar; a lead having a pair of ends, said lead passing through said lead guide means and having stop means at each end to which a leash is attachable; slider means mounted on said lead, located between said lead guide means and arranged to allow a portion of said lead to assume a generally noose-like shape to encompass the nose and mouth region of the animal, wherein said lead <u>further</u> comprises securing means at or towards either end thereof, arranged to be secured or securable together, or to a part of said device, once said leash has been removed from said stop means to leave little or none of said lead dangling from said collar.
- 18. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said lead guide means are arranged as two outer guide means which are engagable with said stop means and two inner guide means which are located one on each side of said longitudinal centre of said collar.
- 19. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 18, wherein said securing means are securable to said inner guide means.
- 20. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said securing means are securable to one another.

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- 21. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said securing means are securable to the collar.
- 22. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein the lead is from about 2.5 to 1.5 times longer than said collar.
- 23. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said securing means comprise spring clips.
- 24. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 23, wherein said spring clips comprise metal or plastics clips.
- 25. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said securing means comprise mutually engagable hook-and-eye fasteners.
- 26. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said securing means comprise fabric mutually engagable hook-and-eye fixings, secured to said ends of said lead.
- 27. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said securing means are securable together underneath the animal's mouth and nose region.
- 28. (Previously presented) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said slider means is made of a material which does not cause an allergic reaction in the animal to which the device is to be attached.
- 29. (Canceled)
- 30. (Canceled)

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- 31. (Currently Amended) A device according to Claim 30 17, wherein said slider means comprises a pair of friction surfaces against which said lead means bears and which friction surfaces allow the free, or at least substantially unimpeded, passage of said lead means.
- 32. (Canceled)
- 33. (Canceled)

Please add the following new claim.

34. (New) A device according to Claim 17, wherein said securing means are connected, attached or secured to said stop means.